

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
PLANNING AND DESIGN COMMITTEE
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
23 Royce Circle
Conference Room B
5 pm**

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES

Members: Chair Steve Bacon, Paul Aho, Karla Fox, Manny Haidous, Chris Kueffner, and Greg Padick

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

Guests: Lou Marquet with LeylandAlliance

1. Call to Order

Steve Bacon called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 19, 2016

Greg Padick made a motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016. Paul Aho seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Review of Zoning Permit Application for Construction of Trails and Connection of Trails from Main Street Homes

Mr. Bacon said the Partnership public hearing on the zoning permit application for construction of trails and connection of trails from Main Street Homes will be on June 2 at 5:30 pm in the 1st floor of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center. He said that with an easement, the public will be able to access the trail through Main Street Homes and connect with Joshua Trust's Whetten Woods.

Lou Marquet reviewed the plans with the Committee.

Mr. Marquet said there will be three directional signs and the Town will put in an interpretive sign on the Town's open space just past the trailhead.

Mr. Marquet said that several trees needed to be taken down as they were not safe. Leyland also cleared out charred trees. Some of the trees need to be taken down to their stumps.

Mr. Marquet said Natural Resources/Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman has reviewed the trail connection with the Town Parks Advisory, and Open Space Preservation Committees.

5. Update and Next Steps on Public Spaces Plan for Storrs Center

Mr. Bacon said UConn Landscape Architecture Professor Kristin Schwab made a presentation on the draft Public Spaces Plan to the Partnership Board of Directors at its last Board meeting. She presented the design options that had been endorsed by the Committee.

Mr. Bacon said the Board was pleased with the designs and complimentary of Ms. Schwab and her students' work. Ms. Schwab is still to prepare a budget. Fundraising will still need to be done once designs are prioritized.

Cynthia van Zelm said Town staff and the private property owners will still need to review the early designs in more detail.

Mr. Bacon said the Committee can help with prioritizing and fundraising. The design concepts will need to be more fully fleshed out before any fundraising can occur.

Ms. van Zelm said Ms. Schwab expects to have a final report in mid-June.

6. Adjourn

Chris Kueffner made a motion to adjourn. Greg Padick seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm

Minutes prepared by Cynthia van Zelm.